

Integrated Care for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness – Practical Guidance for More Effective Intervention

Monday, June 23, 2014 / 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness often have poor physical health, with much higher rates of diabetes, viral hepatitis and other chronic illnesses. Serious mental illness may be a cause of homelessness, or may be brought on by the condition of homelessness itself. Access to the hospital emergency room is often the only avenue to health care, so they are three times more likely than the general population to use the ER at least once a year. Leveraging the capacities of integrated care and innovative community partnerships can provide an improved level of access to, and quality of, primary care with better retention rates among those experiencing homelessness. Hear from the experts at the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless and (PBHCI grantee) Downtown Emergency Service Center (WA) as they offer practical information on how to address issues common to the nexus of homelessness, chronic illness, and serious mental illness, including techniques for keeping patients engaged in care and steps they have taken to address “no show” concerns.

Presenters

Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

- **Bette (BJ) Iacino**

Vice President, Public Policy and Communications

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Bette J. Iacino is the Vice President, Public Policy and Communications for the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless. Previous to joining the Coalition five years ago, she led advocacy and community mobilization campaigns to influence public opinion and shape public policies related to chronic disease prevention and health promotion, hunger eradication, juvenile justice and poverty. She is a former official with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and served on assignment to the White House (Bush I and Clinton Administrations). She directed the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month Campaign for more than 10 years and led women’s health initiatives for the National Governors’ Association and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. She’s also innovated global hunger and micronutrient malnutrition programs through Heifer International, the Carter Center and Emory University’s Department of International Health.

- **David Ott, MD/MBA**

Medical Director, Integrated Health Services

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Dr. David Otto is the Medical Director of Integrated Health Services for Colorado Coalition for the Homeless. He was previously the Vice President and Chief Medical Office for the Floating Hospital in New York City, the largest provider of healthcare to homeless families in NYC. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics.

- **Marilyn Smith, MD**
Psychiatrist
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Dr. Marilyn Smith is a psychiatrist at the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless in Denver, Colorado and has served in this role for ten years. She received her medical degree from Medical College of Wisconsin and is a Board Certified Psychiatrist.

Downtown Emergency Services Center

- **Christina N. Clayton, LICSW, CDP**
Ms. Clayton has worked at DESC since 1999 in the capacity of mental health homeless outreach worker, intensive case manager, supervisor, project manager and now program manager. She oversees clinical programs including homeless outreach, intensive case management, assertive community treatment, crisis respite and integrated primary care. She helps provide agency orientation to new clinical staff and helps coordinate and present agency in-service trainings, including the SAMHSA PBHCI grant. She is an active practicum instructor and an appointed Affiliate Clinical Instructor at University of Washington School of Social Work, where she has also taught workshops and presented on panels. She often represents DESC at State and National conferences related to Mental Health and Substance Use issues and treatment approaches, HIV/AIDS, Harm Reduction, Homelessness, PACT, Outreach/Engagement, Primary Care Integration and Housing First.
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- **Lisa Johnson ARNP**
After graduating from University of Washington with her MN, ARNP in Adult Medicine in 2003, Ms. Johnson went to Africa to work with various aid agencies including Doctors Without Borders. She spent 2 years working in South Sudan, Darfur, Nigeria and then finished up in Guatemala. Back in Seattle, she worked with Harborview's Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. She later joined the team in Harborview's Psychiatric Emergency Room as well as the Medical Urgent Care. After about 5 years in the ED, she began work with the SAMHSA Integrated Health Project in 2011, and has been the Primary Care Provider in the DESC and Harborview Mental Health Clinics since then.
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- **Lew Middleton, Peer Specialist**
Mr. Middleton is one of the first graduates of the 1994 Consumer to Provider Program (Now Peer Counseling) and is also one of the first to complete a 2005 Peer Counseling training. He began his career mental health career in 1993 at Rainbow Creek Day Treatment (Eastside Mental Health) and began working for DESC, where he is currently employed, in 1995. Mr. Middleton created several recovery orientated projects to expand client volunteer services and employment. He also started an alternative "hearing voices" group in 1993, one of the longest running hearing voices group in North America. He collaborates with the Hearing Voices Network out of Manchester, England and is emerging as a national leader in the US. He participates in SAMSHA's PBHCI program at DESC as a Peer Counselor, interviewing and enrolling clients into primary care. He currently co-facilitates the Diabetic Prevention Program (DPP), and writes a health newsletter for DESC. Mr. Middleton is a certified facilitator for Whole Health Action Management (WHAM).

Featured Resources

- Colorado Coalition for the Homeless and their strategy for [“Developing an Integrated Care Model for the Homeless and other Vulnerable Populations in Colorado”](#)
- Downtown Emergency Services Center (DESC) staff recently presented on their model at the Regional Meeting. You can view their presentation here: <http://bit.ly/1igDO1c>
- [HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation \(for research and policy\)](#)
- [National Health Care for the Homeless Council](#)
- [SAMHSA Homelessness Resource Center](#)
- [The Applicability Of Housing First Models To Homeless Persons With Serious Mental Illness](#) - A report on programs using a Housing First approach to providing permanent supportive housing to single, homeless adults.
- [Integrating Behavioral Health & Primary Care for People Experiencing Homelessness](#), reviews how two health care for the homeless projects have implemented integrated behavioral health and primary care models and what factors have contributed to their successes.
- **Pre-conference institute Behavioral Health Integration presentations:**
 - [Behavioral Health Integration for Chronic Pain](#)
 - [Mental Health Services in Primary Care](#)
 - [Behavioral Health Integration Best Practices and Challenges: From Theory to Practice](#)
- **The National Health Care for the Homeless Council Online courses:**
 - [Implementing Harm Reduction Strategies](#)
 - [Motivational Interviewing](#)
 - [Neurobiology of Addiction](#)

For More Information

- Explore the CIHS website (www.integration.SAMHSA.gov) for the latest guidance and information on: [integrated care models](#), [workforce training and development](#), [financing and billing tools](#), establishing partnership [contracts and collaborative agreements](#), [clinical tools and screening forms](#) on substance use, suicide, trauma, and more.
- Contact CIHS for a **1-hour consultation** with one of our integration experts at no cost integration@thenationalcouncil.org or 202-684-7457.